For more than six years, midterm exams at Catholic have been held the week prior to Christmas break. This year, however, the faculty has begun to discuss moving the exams back to their original dates, which would occur after Winter break.

The news of these faculty discussions has spread through the school like wildfire, and many students are furious. This change, which could result in having to study over Christmas break, has caused anger and confusion among those who think the adjustments are unnecessary.

Sophomore Ana Waits believes that having exams after Christmas break would not only ruin the holidays, but might also affect her grades.

“This is an outrage! I don’t want to be stressed out over break and we’ll remember more if we get them over with before. It’s one of our only times off during the year and we shouldn’t have to worry about school,” Waits said.

Most, if not all of the students, however, have been strongly misled by the rumors infiltrating the classrooms. If exams were, in fact, to be held after Christmas break, students would have nearly three weeks of study time before the tests actually took place.

The exams were originally moved to before break in order to allow students more time with their families over the holidays, especially if traveling was involved. Yet after reevaluating the situation, some members of the faculty have pointed out significant advantages to moving the tests back to their original dates.

Assistant principle Mrs. Montague cleared up some of the students’ biggest worries and wants to assure us that the faculty continues to take the students’ best interests to heart.

“Moving the exams would benefit the teachers and the students because it would provide a more permanent ending to the quarter. The system is disjointed right now because students take their exams before break, and when they come back to school there are still three weeks left in the quarter,” Mrs. Montague said.

In addition to ending the second quarter with less confusion, moving exams to after break would allow the school to take more time to celebrate the Christmas season. When the holidays roll in at Catholic, they seem to go almost unnoticed. Instead, students are frantically studying for midterms and searching for every last review sheet they can find.

Without the looming cloud of exams hanging over the building during the most wonderful time of the year, students could redirect their energy into more holiday-oriented activities such as decorating and winter service projects.

As of now, no final decision has been made, but discussions continue to take place among the faculty.

“We have had a meeting with the department heads and broached the subject, but a decision has not been made at all,” Mrs. Montague said. “If the dates are changed, it will be sooner rather than later; maybe in the next year or so. It’s something we need to think about.”